

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. A single use lancet device comprising:
3 a housing, said housing including an at least partially
4 open interior and an access opening defined therein;
5 a lancet, said lancet including a body and a piercing tip;
6 said lancet disposed in said open interior of said housing
7 and structured to move at least between a cocked orientation and
8 a piercing orientation;

9 a driving assembly structured to move said lancet at least
temporarily into said piercing orientation; and

10 a restrictor assembly structured to substantially prevent
11 said lancet from moving into said cocked orientation after said
12 lancet has moved at least temporarily into said piercing
13 orientation.

14 2. A single use lancet as recited in claim 1 wherein said
15 driving assembly includes a biasing element operatively disposed
16 between said lancet and said housing.

17 3. A single use lancet as recited in claim 2 wherein said
18 biasing element comprises a spring.

19 4. A single use lancet as recited in claim 1 further
20 comprising an actuation assembly structured to release said
21 lancet from said cocked orientation.
22

23 5. A single use lancet as recited in claim 4 wherein said
24 actuation assembly comprises a button structured to at least
25 temporarily protrude from said housing when said lancet is

1 disposed in said cocked orientation.

2 6. A single use lancet as recited in claim 5 wherein said
3 button is secured to said lancet and is structured to abut said
4 housing when protruding therethrough so as to retain said lancet
5 in said cocked orientation until disengaged from said abutting
6 engagement.

7 7. A single use lancet as recited in claim 6 wherein said
8 button is structured to be at least temporarily concealed by
9 said housing after said lancet has moved out of said cocked
orientation.

8 8. A single use lancet as recited in claim 1 wherein said
restrictor assembly comprises and abutment structure
cooperatively disposed between said housing and said lancet and
structured to prevent said lancet from moving into said cocked
orientation after movement into said piercing orientation.

9 9. A single use lancet as recited in claim 8 wherein said
abutment structure comprises a shoulder element and a restrictor
panel, said restrictor panel and said shoulder element
structured to pass one another upon said lancet moving from said
10 cocked orientation to said piercing orientation, and to abut one
11 another upon attempted movement of said lancet into said cocked
12 orientation after movement into said piercing orientation.

13 10. A single use lancet as recited in claim 9 wherein said
14 shoulder element includes a sloped, at least partially biased
15 configuration structured to at least partially retract to

1 facilitate passage of said restrictor panel and said shoulder
2 element past one another in a first direction corresponding
3 movement of said lancet from said cocked orientation to said
4 piercing orientation, and to expand subsequent said passage past
5 one another in said first direction such that said shoulder
6 element and said restrictor panel abut one another upon movement
7 towards one another in a second direction generally opposite
8 said first direction.

9 11. A single use lancet as recited in claim 9 wherein said
shoulder element comprises a biased finger extending from said
lancet, and said restrictor panel comprises a protruding element
protruding from said housing.

12. A single use lancet as recited in claim 11 wherein
said protruding element includes a sloped configuration which
downwardly slopes away from said piercing tip of said lancet so
as to facilitate passage thereof past said biased finger upon
said lancet moving in a first direction towards said access
opening.

19 13. A single use lancet as recited in claim 12 wherein
20 said biased finger comprises an actuation button structured to
21 release said lancet from said cocked orientation.

22 14. A single use lancet as recited in claim 1 further
23 comprising a guide assembly operatively disposed between said
24 lancet and said housing and structured to guide a substantially
25 linear movement of said lancet through said housing.

1 15. A single use lancet as recited in claim 14 wherein
2 said guide assembly comprises at least one guide ridge
3 protruding from said body of said lancet, and at least one
4 corresponding guide track structured to movably receive said
5 guide ridge therein and extending at least partially along a
6 length of said open interior of said housing.

7 16. A single use lancet as recited in claim 1 further
8 comprising a protective cover structured to at least partially
9 and removably cover said piercing tip of said lancet at least
prior to movement of said lancet into said cocked orientation.

17. A single use lancet as recited in claim 16 wherein
said protective cover is structured to protrude from said access
opening of said housing and is structured to be pushed by a user
so as to position said lancet into said cocked orientation.

18. A single use lancet device comprising:
a housing, said housing including an at least partially
open interior and an access opening defined therein;
a lancet, said lancet including a body and a piercing tip;
said lancet disposed in said open interior of said housing
and structured to move at least between a cocked orientation and
a piercing orientation;

a driving assembly structured to move said lancet at least
temporarily into said piercing orientation;

a shoulder element and a restrictor panel operatively
associated with said lancet and said housing, said shoulder

1 element structured to pass over said restrictor panel upon said
2 lancet moving from said cocked orientation to said piercing
3 orientation, and to abut said restrictor panel upon attempted
4 movement of said lancet into said cocked orientation after
5 movement into said piercing orientation so as to substantially
6 prevent said lancet from moving into said cocked orientation
7 after said lancet has moved at least temporarily into said
8 piercing orientation; and

9 an actuation button structured to at least temporarily
protrude from said housing when said lancet is disposed in said
cocked orientation so as to maintain said lancet in said cocked
orientation.

19. A single use lancet as recited in claim 18 wherein
said shoulder element comprises said actuation button.

20. A single use lancet as recited in claim 18 wherein
said shoulder element extends from said lancet and said
restrictor panel is at least partially secured to said housing.

21. A single use lancet as recited in claim 18 further
comprising a protective cover structured to at least partially
and removably cover said piercing tip of said lancet at least
prior to movement of said lancet into said cocked orientation.

22. A single use lancet as recited in claim 21 wherein
said protective cover is structured to protrude from said access
opening of said housing and is structured to be pushed by a user
so as to position said lancet into said cocked orientation.

1 23. A single use lancet as recited in claim 18 wherein
2 said shoulder element comprises a biased finger extending from
3 said lancet generally towards said piercing tip of said lancet,
4 and said restrictor panel comprises a protruding element
5 disposed in said housing.

6 24. A single use lancet as recited in claim 23 wherein
7 said protruding element includes a sloped configuration which
8 downwardly slopes away from said piercing tip of said lancet so
9 as to facilitate passage thereof past said biased finger upon
10 said lancet moving in a first direction towards said access
opening.

25. A single use lancet as recited in claim 18 further
comprising at least one guide ridge protruding from said body of
said lancet, and at least one corresponding guide track
structured to movably receive said guide ridge therein and
extending at least partially along a length of said open
interior of said housing so as to guide substantially linear
movement of said lancet within said housing.